

STARTFORTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

**MEDICAL OFFICER'S
REPORT**

**for the Year ended
31st December, 1966**

H. R. Morrison, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

TO THE CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, of the
STARTFORTH RURAL DISTRICT CCUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report on the health of the District for the year ended 31st December, 1966.

The mid-year population, as estimated by the Registrar General, was 4,010 a decrease of 120 on that for the year 1965.

The total number of births was 55, there being 2 deaths of children under one year of age, and no maternal deaths during the year under review.

Deaths totalled 48 (42 in 1965) giving a death rate of 12.21 which is higher than that for England and Wales at 11.7

Principal causes of deaths were - 15 heart diseases (19 in 1965), 7 from cancer (4 in 1965) 11 from vascular lesions of the nervous system (6 in 1965) and 3 from respiratory disease other than tuberculosis (1 in 1965) other circulatory diseases 7, the same as 1965.

107 cases of infectious diseases were notified during the year, (all measles) compared with 30 in 1965.

There were two notifications of pulmonary tuberculosis in the District during the year.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL, HOUSING AND WATER SUPPLY

These matters are dealt with by the Public Health Inspector in his report which follows at the end of my report. I would like to take this opportunity of expressing my gratitude to him and other Members of his staff for their co-operation and help.

H.R. Morrison,

M.B., Ch.B., D.F.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health Dr. H.R. Morrison, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector C.D. Hunter, D.P.A., M.A.P.H.I, C.R.S.I.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of District in acres	...	97,630
Resident Population, mid-year estimate	...	4,010
Number of inhabited houses	...	1,485
Rateable Value as at 1st April, 1966	...	£196,245
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	£780
Rate in £ levied at 1st April, 1966	...	10/4

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

The number of live births registered during the year was 55 as against 76 in 1965 (14.8) The birth rate comparisons show that the rate for the district is lower than that for the rest of England and Wales (17.7)

Birth Rate Comparisons

Live births per 1,000 population, as adjusted
by Comparability Factor

Still births per 1,000 total live and still births

	<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Still Births</u>
1966 Startforth Rural District	14.8	-
1965 Startforth Rural District	19.39	13.11
1966 England and Wales	17.7	15.4

Analysis of Births

	1966		1965	
<u>Live Births:-</u>	M	F	M	F
Legitimate	31	24	35	33
Illegitimate	-	-	7	1
	<u>31</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>34</u>

Illegitimate Live Births = 00.00

Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births = 36.36

Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Illegitimate live births = 00.00

Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under four weeks) = 18.18 per thousand

Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under one week) = 18.18 total live births

Perinatal Mortality Rate (still births and deaths under one week combined
per 1,000 total live and still births) = 18.18

Still Births:-

		1966		1965	
		M	F	M	F
Legitimate	...	-	-	-	1
Illegitimate	...	-	-	-	-
					1

DEATHS

Maternal Mortality. No maternal deaths were registered in the district during the year as in the past 9 years.

Infantile Mortality. Two children under one year died in the district during 1966, the same number as 1965.

Infantile Mortality comparisons per 1,000 live births

Startforth Rural District 1966	...	36.36
Startforth Rural District 1965	...	26.31
England and Wales 1966	...	19.0

Deaths from all Causes During 1966 there were 48 deaths from all causes registered in the district, as against 42 in 1965. The death rate being higher than that for England and Wales (11.7).

Death Rate Comparisons - per 1,000 population as adjusted by Comparability Factor

Startforth Rural District 1966	...	12.21
Startforth Rural District 1965	...	10.26
England and Wales 1966	...	11.7

Causes of all Deaths - Compared with 1965

		1966		1965	
		M	F	M	F
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	...	-	2	-	-
" " " " , Uterus	...	2	-	-	-
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasm...	...	1	1	3	1
Leukemia	...	1	-	-	-
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	...	5	6	1	5
Coronary Disease, Angina	...	6	6	7	7
Hypertension with Heart Disease	...	-	-	-	-
Other Heart Diseases	...	2	1	1	4
Other Circulatory Diseases	...	5	2	3	4
Bronchitis	...	1	1	-	-
Congenital Malformations	...	-	-	-	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases...	...	1	1	3	2
Motor Vehicle Accidents	...	2	-	-	-
All other accidents	...	1	-	-	-
Suicide	...	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	...	1	-	1	-
Diabetes	...	-	-	-	-
		28	20	19	23

Number of Deaths from the seven Chief Causes, Rates and Comparisons with previous year.

	per 1,000 population			
	1965		1966	
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
Cancer	4	.97	7	1.75
Respiratory (non-tuberculosis)	1	.24	3	.74
Heart Diseases	19	4.60	15	3.74
Tuberculosis - Pulmonary	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis - Non-Pulmonary	-	-	-	-
Other Circulatory Diseases	7	1.69	7	1.75
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	6	1.45	11	2.74
	37	8.95	43	10.72

INFECTIOUS DISEASES There were 107 cases of notifiable and/or infectious diseases during 1966, as against 30 in 1965.

Analysis of infectious diseases and comparisons with previous year

		1965	1966
		No. of cases	No. of cases
Scarlet Fever	...	-	-
Measles	...	26	107
Whooping Cough	...	-	-
Dysentery	...	4	-
		30	107

Tuberculosis Two cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified in 1966.
A female aged 36 and her son aged 6.

Deaths from Tuberculosis No deaths from this disease were registered in the district in 1966 as in 1965.

Vaccination and Immunisation Against Smallpox, Diphtheria, and Pertussis, Whooping Cough, Tetanus and Poliomyelitis, carried out during 1966

	<u>Vaccination</u>	<u>Re-vaccination</u>
Smallpox	49	10
	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Booster</u>
Diphtheria	66	107
Pertussis (Whooping Cough)	63	24
Tetanus	65	82
Poliomyelitis	60	76

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT, 1946

Sections 22, 23, 24 and 25. Care of Mothers and Young Children, Domiciliary Midwifery, Health Visiting and Home Nursing.

The Infant Welfare Clinic held monthly at Barningham continued during the year. The District Medical Officer was in attendance as well as the District Nurse/Midwives. The Infant Welfare Clinic at Deerbolt is held fortnightly for the wives and children of army personnel with a District Nurse/Midwife in attendance.

The following number of visits paid to patients in the District by the Nurse Midwife during 1966 under the respective categories are compared with those for 1965 :-

<u>Category</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>
Domiciliary Midwifery ...	625	528
Home Nursing ...	1,281	1,688
Health Visiting ...	1,891	1,034

Section 27 Ambulance Service. This service is provided by the North Riding County Council from the Ambulance Station which has a staff of one Driver-Foreman, one Shift Leader and six Driver-Attendants.

Section 28 - Prevention of Illness. Care and After-Care. The work of vaccination and immunisation, together with the advice spread by those working in the Public Health Service, Inspectors, Midwives, Maternity and Child Welfare Officers, Doctors and Nurses, must have a beneficial effect on the general health of the community.

Meals on Wheels. A meals on wheels service is operated in the area and is organised by the W.V.S.

Section 29 - Domestic Home Help Service. This service is provided by the North Riding County Council and during 1966 14 cases received help, as compared with 20 in 1965, the analysis and comparison with 1965 being:-

<u>Category</u>	<u>Cases</u>		<u>Hours</u>	
	1965	1966	1965	1966
Domiciliary Midwifery ...	2	1	32	15
Chronic Sick ...	18	13	5,318	3,762
Sick Housewife ...	-	-	-	-
	<u>20</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>5,350</u>	<u>3,777</u>

CHIROPODY

The North Riding County Council employ a chiropodist to provide the service for aged people, expectant mothers, physically handicapped, and mentally disordered. Sessions are held at Bowes, Cotherstone and Romald-kirk as and when required.

The Public Health work of the District has been carried out as usual by Mr. C.D. Hunter, the Public Health Inspector, who has compiled the remainder of this report.

NUISANCE INSPECTIONS

Total Number of Inspections for Nuisances only	..	59
Total Number of Nuisances found	12
Number abated by informal action	10
Number abated by statutory action	-

PUBLIC CLEANSING

A scavenging service continued to operate throughout the area during 1966. Only a small number of the most remote and inaccessible properties were not served. A weekly collection from the back door is provided for almost all premises, although a few of the farmsteads lying outside the main centres of population are visited less frequently by arrangement.

All refuse is conveyed to one refuse tip which is situated near the village of Mickleton; unfortunately this is at one end of the district but the journeys have been so arranged as to minimise the dead mileage. So far as is possible controlled tipping is carried out in accordance with Ministry of Health Recommendations.

One rear loading vehicle and one side loading vehicle are regularly used on the collection service together with four men and one old vehicle is kept available for emergency use. A fifth man is employed on tip dressing, and on relief duties. The annual cost of the service is £5,766.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

<u>Inspections</u>	<u>No. on Register</u>	<u>No. of Inspections</u>
Factories in which sections 1,2, 3, 4 and 6 are enforced by Local Authority.	13	27
Factories not included above in which section 7 is enforced by Local Authority.	6	17
Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by Local Authority.	3	3

Cases in which defects were found

	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosec- utions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Sanitary Conveniences					
Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	-	-

Outworkers

Two outworkers are registered for the making, etc, of wearing apparel.

OFFICE SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

(1) Class of Premises	(2) Number of premises registered during the year	(3) Total Number of registered premises at end of year	(4) Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	-	1	-
Retail shops	-	2	2
Wholesale shops, warehouse	-	-	-
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	1	6	6
Fuel storage depots	-	-	-
TOTALS	1	9	8

The number of visits of all kinds by inspectors to registered premises was

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The following establishments are registered under the Food Hygiene Regulations 1960.

Category	Number of premises	Number complying with Regulation 16.	Number to which Regulation 19 applies	Number complying with Regulation 19
Grocer and General Store	14	14	14	13
Cafes and Restaurants	4	4	4	4
Butchers Shops	1	1	1	1
Hotels and Inns	16	16	16	16
Licensed Clubs	3	3	3	3

Nine of these shop premises are registered to store ice cream for sale and all of these retail pre-packed ice cream only.

Three privately owned slaughterhouses are registered and 354 visits for meat inspection were made during the year. The tables overleaf show the details of the carcasses inspected during the year.

The total weight of meat condemned was 479 lbs, a very small amount having regard to the fact that the total number of animals slaughtered was 2,701.

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number Killed	491	-	372	1,783	154	-
Number Inspected	491	-	372	1,783	154	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	4	4	-	-
Carcasses of which some part of organ was condemned	11	-	2	13	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci	2.24	-	1.61	1.04	-	-
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcasses of which some part of organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

CARAVAN SITES

The total number of licensed sites at the end of the year 1966 was 28. With two exceptions these sites are for very small numbers of caravans (less than five) and little difficulty is experienced in their control.

One large site at Startforth accommodates a maximum of 200 caravans. This site provides holiday accommodation only - no residential vans are permitted. The standard of cleanliness is very high and no difficulty is experienced in enforcing the licence conditions on the site. A site for 30 caravans (ultimately 60) is being developed at Mickleton and will comply with the licence conditions when completed.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The Council now possess satisfactory sewerage systems at Cotherstone, Mickleton, Barningham, Startforth, Romaldkirk, Bowes and Boldron. New sewers and works are being provided at Ovington and will be completed and operational shortly.

Only Hutton Magna and Lartington remain as requiring the provision of new schemes and both of these are small villages with populations under 100. Preparations are in hand for the former, where the use of Extended Aeration Treatment Plant is envisaged.

During the year the Council decided to inaugurate a Septic Tank and Cesspool Emptying Service and all such tanks receiving domestic drainage only are being emptied free of charge annually. The Council has engaged the services of a local contractor for the work and preliminary indications are that it is working smoothly and is greatly appreciated.

WATER SUPPLY

The water supplies throughout the area are under the control of the Tees Valley and Cleveland Water Board. Because of the comparatively low yield from the bore hole supply at Bowes the Water Board were obliged to restrict the supply to consumers during the late summer and it is understood that they hope shortly to remedy the situation by taking water to the Bowes service reservoir from their main treatment plant at Lartington.

A total of 52 samples were taken for bacteriological examination during the year; of these 20 were unsatisfactory, largely from private supplies. Advice as to remedial measures was offered in these latter cases.

In addition to the foregoing the Tees Valley and Cleveland Water Board carry out regular routine examinations of all the supplies under their control, both bacteriologically and chemically. No chemical analyses have been made on samples taken by the department and I am indebted to the Water Board's Chemist for the information given over-leaf which represents the average figure of a number of chemical analyses of the public supplies. Figures given are expressed as parts per million except where otherwise stated.

Nine hundred and fifty houses are connected to the public mains in the area and a total of five hundred and thirty seven are dependent on private supplies of varying sorts, primarily springs.

HOUSING

The Council owns eighty-six houses and twenty four bungalows.

No further action was taken during the year to provide additional houses, although there is a demand for a small number at Startforth village. Previous attempts to build houses of satisfactory standard at suitable rents for low income workers have been unsuccessful but preliminary consideration was being given at the end of the year to a small programme of ten houses for 1967.

During the year applications have been approved for both standard and discretionary grants. Seventeen standard grants were approved and six discretionary grants. The total number of grants approved since the introduction of the schemes is two hundred and sixty one. The average figure paid during the year for standard grants was £153. 14 4. and for discretionary grants £349. 5. 0. In view of the small local building force available it is felt that progress with improvement schemes is satisfactory although the fall-off in numbers of schemes approved compared with last year is considerable and the situation must be kept under review from year to year.

RODENT CONTROL

During the year a total of 12 treatments for the elimination of rats and mice was carried out using the principles laid down by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

ANALYSES OF WATER SUPPLIES

AVERAGES FOR THE YEAR 1966

Results expressed as parts per million

	Lartington mixed final water	Barnard Castle Urban District Reservoir Startforth Village	Hunderthwaite	Holwick	Bowes- Boldron	Barningham
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.019	0.019	0.014	0.026	0.021	0.027
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.042	0.058	0.023	0.103	0.063	0.053
Nitrite Nitrogen	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	0.002	<0.001
Nitrate Nitrogen	0.65	0.26	0.25	0.34	<0.25	<0.25
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate) in 4 hrs. at 27°C.	3.0	1.1	1.0	6.1	0.7	1.4
Colour (Hazen)	28	5	5	60	5	7
Turbidity as Silica	2.9	2.7	1.3	4.4	2.8	2.2
pH	7.5	7.2	6.9	7.4	7.3	7.5
Free Carbon Dioxide	2.3	4	23	9	16	4
Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	30	65	152	77	303 (A)	120
Carbonate Hardness as CaCO ₃	30	65	152	77	-	120
Non-Carbonate Hardness as CaCO ₃	31	15	5	5	-	13
Total Hardness as CaCO ₃	61	80	156	82	195 (CH)	132
Calcium Hardness as CaCO ₃	52	68	132	77	136	110
Magnesium Hardness as CaCO ₃	9	12	24	5	59	22
Chlorides as Cl	13	10	9	10	13	12
Silicate as SiO ₂	2	7	10	4	17	7
Iron as Fe	0.16	0.04	0.04	0.27	0.10	0.07
Potassium as K	0.9	1.1	1.8	1.6	28	0.8
Sodium as Na	4.1	6.5	6.2	4.6	77	6.9
Total Solids Dried at 105°C	97	118	202	121	401	182
Fluoride Content	0.2	-	0.1	0.15	0.4	0.1
Conductivity micro-ohms at 20°C	140	175	300	175	565	260

Key

(A) Alkalinity

(CH) Carbonate Hardness

